

Interview Summary	Application No. 09/504,438	Applicant(s) UMEMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner David D. Knepper	Art Unit 2654	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) David D. Knepper (for PTO). (3) _____.

(2) Catherine Voisinet (for Applicant). (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 7 JAN 2004

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1,9-11,16,18,19 and 27-29.

Identification of prior art discussed: Kobayashi.

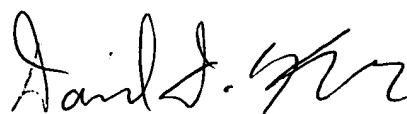
Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

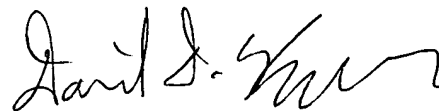
THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: New language "storing an association" was argued by the applicant as not being taught by the prior art. The claimed association is interpreted by the Examiner as something broad enough to encompass any association to include information, topic and even time relationships. We also discussed time controlling the position of each sound independently. The Examiner suggested using the term "sound topic" as being positionally controlled.



DAVID D. KNEPPER
PRIMARY EXAMINER